GDST 200-3: Thinking About Gender (B-Hum)

Helen Hok-Sze Leung
hhl@sfu.ca
Lecture: Mondays 12:30-14:20
Office hours: TBA
AQ 5104A

Course Description:
In this course, students will develop analytical skills to think about gender from critical, creative, and culturally diverse perspectives. Through theoretical readings, fiction, and films, we will explore the following topics: the concept “gender” and its relation to the sexed body; intersexuality and ethics; gender and mass culture; transgender issues; drag culture and the performance of gender; indigenous knowledge and the critique of colonialism. Throughout the course, we will question conventional beliefs about gender and challenge ourselves to explore new ways of imagining and living gender.

Course Texts and Courseware:
Kate Bornstein, My Gender Workbook (Routledge, 1998)
Jackie Kay, Trumpet (Vintage, 2000)
Custom Courseware for GDST 200 (includes articles by Ann Fausto-Sterling, Sharon Preves, Susan Bordo, Judith Halberstam and others)

Films:
Is it a Boy or a Girl? (ISNA, 2000)
XXY (Lucía Puenzo, 2008)
Gendernauts (Monica Treut, 1998)
Drag Kings On Tour (Sonia Slutsky, 2004)
Ke Kulana He Mahu (Kathryn Xian & Brent Anbe, 2001)

Course Evaluation and Assignments:
Attendance & Participation 20%
Mid-Term 20%
Research Assignment 30%
Final Exam 30%

THE DEPARTMENT OF GENDER, SEXUALITY, AND WOMEN’S STUDIES ENCOURAGES CLARITY OF THOUGHT AND EXPRESSION AND GOOD WRITING. STUDENTS WILL BE EVALUATED ON THESE SKILLS IN ALL COURSES GIVEN BY THE DEPARTMENT.
IN ADDITION, THE DEPARTMENT WILL FOLLOW POLICY T10.02 WITH RESPECT TO “INTELLECTUAL HONESTY,” AND “ACADEMIC DISCIPLINE” (WWW.SFU.CA/POLICIES/TEACHING)